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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of

Frederic BESEME, Jean-Luc BLOND, Olivier BOUTON, Bernard MANDRAND, Francois MALLET, Herve PERRON

Application No.: New PCT-U.S. National Stage of PCT/FR98/01442

Filed: December 16, 1999

Docket No.: 105045

For: ENDOGENETIC RETROVIRAL SEQUENCES, ASSOCIATED WITH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES OR WITH PREGNANCY DISORDERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Line 1, change "ENDOGENOUS" to --ENDOGENETIC--; and

line 2, change "AND/OR" to --OR--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3, line 2, change "either of claims 1 and 2," to --claim 1,--.

Claim 5, lines 1-2, change "either of claims 1 and 4," to --claim 1,--.

Claim 6, lines 1-2, change "either of claims 1 and 4," to --claim 1,--.

Claim 7, lines 5-6, change "any one of claims 1 to 6" to --claim 1,--.

Claim 8, lines 4-6, change "any one of claims 1 to 6, or a nucleic fragment according to claim 7." to --claim 1.--.